Title

A good title **efficiently** tells the reader what the report is about using **key words**. To begin writing an acceptable title, consider making a list of the key words related to the experiment or activity. Then, use the key words to write a **descriptive statement**. Do not write a sentence that is trying to capture the reader’s attention.

Use this check list and examples to make sure your title is acceptable.

\_\_\_\_\_ Is the title factual and not an opinion?

Acceptable title: Increases in respiration rate during exercise

Not acceptable: Having fun while doing the run

\_\_\_\_\_ Does the title accurately describe the contents/purpose of the experiment or activity?

(subject, key variables, overall findings)

Acceptable title: Determining the pH of various household substances

Not acceptable: pH lab

\_\_\_\_\_ Are the fewest possible words used while maintaining accuracy?

A title should be 10 words or less.

Acceptable title: Effect of temperature on the length of a stretched rubber band

Not acceptable: The effect of warm and cold temperatures on the overall length of a

brown, 2mm wide, rubber band stretched out with a brass weight

\_\_\_\_\_ Is the title used as a label and not a sentence?

Acceptable title: Modeling erosion using a stream table

Not acceptable: As water runs across the surface of the sand found in a stream table,

erosion occurs.

\_\_\_\_\_ The title should not contain abbreviations, chemical formulas, or jargon

Acceptable title: Oxygen production rates during photosynthesis

Not acceptable: O2 production rates during photosynthesis

\_\_\_\_\_ Does the title begin with a key word? Avoid “the” or “a”.

Acceptable title: Response of earthworms to light

Not acceptable: The response of earthworms to light

\_\_\_\_\_ The title should not refer to participants. Avoid we, I and our.

Acceptable title: Testing relationship between mass and gravity

Not acceptable: Our lab about the relationship between mass and gravity